

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 EB-24 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 FEA-02 SWF-02 AGR-20 COME-00 DRC-01

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R 012000Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5814

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA'S MEETING
WITH PRESIDENT FORD

1. BEGIN SUMMARY:EARLY PRESS COVERAGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER
SILVEIRA'S SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
FORD STRESSED REPORTED STATEMENTS OF PRESIDENT
THAT US CONSIDERS RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL
IMPORTANT AND WISHES TO STAY IN CONSULTATION
WITH BRAZIL ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS, THAT HE
IS IMPRESSED WITH BRAZIL'S ECONOMIC GROWTH,
AND THAT HE INTENDS TO VISIT BRAZIL.
END SUMMARY

2. CORREIO BRAZILIENSE HEADLINED "FORD REAFFIRMS
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RELATIONSHIP WITH BRAZIL",
ADDING "US PRESIDENT GERALD FORD REAFFIRMED
YESTERDAY THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTRIBUTES TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRIENDLY AND CLOSE RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE US AND BRAZIL". JORNAL DO BRASIL
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QUOTED WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN AS SAYING PRESIDENT

"TOOK THE OCCASION TO HIGHLIGHT 'THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE UNITED STATES GIVES TO THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL'".

3. O GLOBO QUOTED PRESIDENT AS SAYING "OUR COUNTRY WANTS, ON A PERMANENT BASIS, TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD". UNDER HEADLINE "US WILL CONSULT BRAZIL ON CUBAN QUESTIONS," SAME PAPER REPORTED "DURING THE PROCESS OF DECIDING THE CUBAN QUESTION ...

THE US WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH BRAZIL., SAID PRESIDENT GERALD FORD YESTERDAY". CORREIO BRZILIENSE CITED WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN AS SAYING PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED THAT THE US "WILL REMAIN IN PERMANENT CONSULTATION WITH BRAZIL AND THE OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE OAS BEFORE THE MEETING IN QUITO..." JORNAL DO BRASIL, AFTER REPORTING LIST OF TOPICS DISCUSSED, SAID "THE MENTION OF PETROLEUM INDICATES THAT THE BRAZILIAN POSITION WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONSULTATIONS WHICH THE FIVE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE CARRYING OUT TO SOLVE THE SUPPLY PROBLEM".

4. JORNAL DO BRASIL HEADLINED ON FRONT PAGE, AND O GLOBO ALSO RAN STORY ON, ALLEGED STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT (APPARENTLY REPORTED BY AFP) THAT HE INTENDS TO VISIT BRAZIL "SOON".

5. SPEAKING TO REPORTERS IN RIO UPON HIS RETURN TO BRAZIL, SILVEIRA ESSENTIALLY CONFIRMED THE ABOVE, EXCEPT WITH REGARD TO THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, WHICH (ACCORDING TO CORREIO BRAZILIENSE) HE SAID "WILL BE DISCUSSED IN DUE TIME".

6. SILVEIRA ALSO ADDED SOME POINTS REGARDING HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, TELLING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORTERS THAT BRAZIL WILL NOT CHANGE ITS POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE ARABS, IN SPITE OF CONSIDERING THE US POSITION OF RESISTANCE TO HIGH PETROLEUM PRICES "LEGITIMATE". ACCORDING TO VARIOUS PAPERS, SILVEIRA ALSO SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT REVEALED HE HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY THE REACTION TO HIS SPEECH ON THIS POINT, AND SILVEIRA EXPLAINED THE REACTION TO HIM. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO

QUOTED SILVEIRA AS SAYING "I POINTED OUT TO
HIM THAT THE SPEECH GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF A
FRONT OF RESISTANCE TO THE ARAB POLICY. HE
CLARIFIED, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD NEVER THOUGHT
OF BRINGING ABOUT A FRONT OF BROAD ACTION OF
OPPOSITION TO ARAB PRETENSIONS. I WENT FURTHER,
RECALLING THAT THE CHANGE OF ONE DEGREE IN
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY HAS PROFOUND
INFLUENCES ALL OVER THE WORLD."
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MEETING AGENDA, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRASIL07497
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740277-0549
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741084/aaaactwv.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS COVERAGE OF FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD
TAGS: PFOR, BR, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (SILVEIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005